Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A purified variant costimulatory polypeptide, wherein said variant polypeptide is a variant of a wild-type costimulatory polypeptide that binds to PD-1, wherein said wild-type costimulatory polypeptide has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4, wherein said variant costimulatory polypeptide has binding affinity for PD-1 that is detectable by ELISA but is reduced by at least 50 percent as compared to the binding affinity of said wild-type costimulatory polypeptide for PD-1, and wherein said variant costimulatory polypeptide retains the ability to costimulate a T cell.

2. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said variant polypeptide comprises a substitution of one or more amino acids of the wild-type polypeptide.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said wild-type costimulatory polypeptide is murine B7-H1 (SEQ ID NO:4).

5. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 4, comprising a substitution of the amino acid at position 67 of SEQ ID NO:4.

6. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 5, wherein said substitution comprises replacing the amino acid at position 67 of SEQ ID NO:4 with an alanine residue.

7. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 4, comprising a substitution of the amino acid at position 126 of SEQ ID NO:4.

8. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 7, wherein said substitution comprises replacing the amino acid at position 126 of SEQ ID NO:4 with an alanine residue.

9. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 4, comprising a substitution of the amino acid at position 37 of SEQ ID NO:4.

10. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 9, wherein said substitution comprises replacing the amino acid at position 37 of SEQ ID NO:4 with a tyrosine residue.

11. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 4, comprising a substitution of the amino acid at position 115 of SEQ ID NO:4.

12. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 11, wherein said substitution comprises replacing the amino acid at position 115 of SEQ ID NO:4 with an alanine residue.

13. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 4, comprising a substitution of the amino acid at position 124 of SEQ ID NO:4.

14. (Original) The purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 13, wherein said substitution comprises replacing the amino acid at position 124 of SEQ ID NO:4 with a serine residue.

15-30. (Canceled)

31. (Withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid sequence that encodes the polypeptide of claim 1.

32. (Withdrawn) A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 31.

33. (Withdrawn) The vector of claim 32, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is operably linked to an expression control sequence.

34. (Withdrawn) A host cell comprising the vector of claim 32.

35. (Withdrawn) A method for enhancing T cell activation, said method comprising contacting a T cell with the purified variant costimulatory polypeptide of claim 1.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein said contacting is *in vitro*.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 35, wherein said T cell is in a mammal.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, wherein said method comprises administering the variant polypeptide to the mammal.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, wherein said method comprises administering a nucleic acid encoding said variant polypeptide to said mammal.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein said method comprises administering a cell transfected or transduced with said nucleic acid to said mammal, wherein said cell is a cell, or a progeny of a cell, that prior to said transfection or said transduction, was obtained from said mammal.

41. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, wherein said mammal is a human.

42. (Currently Amended) A polypeptide fragment of murine B7-H1 (SEQ ID NO:4), said polypeptide fragment comprising amino acids 67-69 or amino acids 113-115 of SEQ ID NO:4, with the proviso that said polypeptide fragment comprises a variant at position 69 or 113 with respect to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:4, wherein said polypeptide fragment inhibits binding of murine B7-H1 to murine PD-1, and wherein said polypeptide fragment is at least 258 amino acids in length.

43. (Previously Presented) The polypeptide fragment of claim 42, comprising amino acids 62-69 of SEQ ID NO:4.

44. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting the interaction between PD-1 and B7-H1, said method comprising contacting a PD-1 polypeptide with the polypeptide fragment of claim 42.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein said PD-1 is *in vitro*.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 44, wherein said PD-1 is in a mammal.

47. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein said method comprises administering the polypeptide fragment to the mammal.

48. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein said method comprises administering a nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide fragment to said mammal.

49. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 48, wherein said method comprises administering a cell transfected or transduced with said nucleic acid to said mammal, wherein said cell is a cell, or a progeny of a cell, that prior to said transfection or said transduction, was obtained from said mammal.

50. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 46, wherein said mammal is a human.

51-60. (Canceled)